

**RULES 63 AND 67 (37 C.F.R. 1.63 and 1.67)
DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

FOR UTILITY/DESIGN/CIP/PCT NATIONAL APPLICATIONS

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; and

I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **METHOD FOR FORMING A BACK-DRILLED PLATED THROUGH HOLE IN A PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARD AND THE RESULTING PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARD**, the specification of which: (mark only one)

- X (a) is attached hereto.
— (b) was filed on _ as Application Serial No. _ and was amended on _ (if applicable)
— (c) was filed as PCT International Application No. PCT/_ on _ and was amended on _ (if applicable).
— (d) was filed on _ as Application Serial No. _ and was issued a Notice of Allowance on _.
— (e) was filed on _ and bearing attorney docket number _.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims as amended by any amendment referred to above or as allowed as indicated above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to the patentability of this application as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56. If this is a continuation-in-part (CIP) application, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to me to be material to patentability of the application as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119/365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate filed by me or my assignee disclosing the subject matter claimed in this application and having a filing date (1) before that of the application on which my priority is claimed or, (2) if no priority is claimed, before the filing date of this application:

PRIOR FOREIGN PATENTS

<u>Number</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Month/Day/Year</u> <u>Filed</u>	<u>Date first laid-</u> <u>open or</u> <u>Published</u>	<u>Date</u> <u>patented or</u> <u>Granted</u>	<u>Priority Claimed</u> <u>Yes</u> <u>No</u>
---------------	----------------	---------------------------------------	---	---	---

NONE

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120/365 of any United States application(s) listed below and PCT international applications listed above or below:

PRIOR U.S. OR PCT APPLICATIONS

<u>Application No. (series code/serial no.)</u>	<u>Month/Day/Year Filed</u>	<u>Status(pending, abandoned, patented)</u>
---	-----------------------------	---

NONE

I hereby appoint:

V. Lawrence Sewell, Reg. No. 22,753
Richard A. Mysliwiec, Reg. No. 40,098
Craig A. Hoersten, Reg. No. 38,917
Jessica W. Smith, Reg. No. 39,884

Of Alcatel USA, Inc., and the following:

William J. Tucker, Reg. No. 41,356

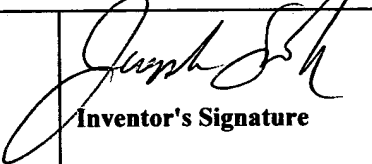
as my attorneys, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application, provisionals thereof, continuations, continuations-in-part, divisionals, appeals, reissues, substitutions, and extensions thereof and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, to appoint any individuals under an associate power of attorney and to file and prosecute any international patent application filed thereon before any international authorities, and I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/organization who/which first sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct them in writing to the contrary.

Please address all correspondence and direct all telephone calls to:

Alcatel USA
Intellectual Property Department
3400 W. Plano Parkway, M/S LEGL2
Plano, TX 75075
972/477-9092 (Richard Mysliwiec)
CUSTOMER NO. 24587

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

NAMED INVENTOR

1	Joseph Smetana Jr. Full Name	 Inventor's Signature	9/18/03 Date
	1046 Courtney Circle Rockwall, Texas 75087 United States Residence (city, state, country) <div style="text-align: right;">United States of America Citizenship</div>		
	1046 Courtney Circle Rockwall, Texas 75087 United States Post Office Address (include zip code)		